

*Silurana tropicalis.*

Olive-green, smooth, pale beneath. The webs of the hind feet are broad, white, semitransparent; the claws on the three inner toes are well developed and black.

*Hab.* West Africa, Lagos. Brit. Mus. Collected by R. B. N. Walter, Esq.

The *Dactylethra Mülleri* of Dr. Peters, from Mozambique, and of Mr. Cope, from the Gaboon, most probably belong to this genus: but the beards are described as being placed "below the eyes;" in this animal they are far in front of the lower part of the eye, and situated at the angle of the gape, as in many *Siluri* and other fishes with bearded mouths.

*Note on Lepas anatifera.*

16 Union Terrace, Aberdeen.  
Sept. 12, 1864.

DEAR SIR,—I send you a photograph of rather a remarkable specimen of the common Barnacle (*Lepas anatifera* of Linnæus), which was picked up by the fishermen in the Bay of Aberdeen a few days ago, and which you might notice in the 'Annals' if you think it worthy.

The log of wood is about 27 feet long, and 16 inches in diameter, three sides of which are covered with millions of these animals in high perfection. The Barnacles, as they lie about it, make a diameter of 2 feet 9 inches, and, floating in the water, they spread out to a width of 4 or 5 feet. The shell, in the greater number, is fully  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch long, while the peduncle is, in many, 18 inches.

I am not aware of the Barnacle having been seen before in this part of the country, though I believe it is occasionally found on the western coast.

It is probable that the pine-log to which the animals are attached must have floated from a southern latitude; so that an interesting problem is offered to science by its appearance in our bay.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

To W. Francis, Ph.D., F.L.S.

RO. DYCE, M.D., F.R.S.E.

*On the Anatomy of the Balanophoreæ, as regards the Characters which it furnishes for the Classification of those Plants.* By M. A. CHATIN.

The Balanophoreæ, with the Cytinæ and Rafflesiaceæ constitute a singular class of parasitic plants, which has received the name of *Rhizanthææ*; their flowers, which are sometimes small and grouped together, sometimes very large and solitary, often appear to push forth, like Mushrooms, from a sort of subterranean byssus.

Their seed, which has been the subject of valuable investigations on the part of Messrs. Weddell, J. D. Hooker, Griffith, and Hofmeister, has its embryo formed only by a homogeneous cellular mass, like the spores of Cryptogamic plants—a simplicity of organization